



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

should be a graduated compulsory educational system; in addition to the common branches, physical geography, political economy, ethics, natural and moral theology, and technical instruction should be given. Pardoning power should be rare; release should occur only when there is reasonable security against further crime. There are about 46,000 penitentiary prisoners in the United States, and from a quarter to half a million of ex-convicts abroad in the community, which is the cause of most of the current crimes.

*De la suggestion hypnotique chez les criminels*, par le DR. EM. LAURENT.  
Revue de l'Hypnotisme, 1er Août, 1889.

The writer takes up in detail a hysterical individual accused of complicity in theft, and shows how that hypnotization is negative in results as to gaining a confession from the accused. The following conversation took place while the accused was in the hypnotic state:

Laurent. You are accused of complicity in theft. Patient. I am innocent. L. You knew however that the horse and carriage had been stolen? P. No, no. I didn't know anything about it. L. You knew it. P. I swear to you, I did not. L. I tell you, you did know it. P. No (already more softly). L. I assure you that you knew it, you knew it. P. Yes, I knew it. L. Are you sure you knew it? P. I knew it. L. (again). You did not know that the carriage had been stolen? P. Yes, I knew it. (Thus it is evident, that the will of the patient has been conquered by the will of the hypnotizer.) Dr. Laurent continues: You did not know that the carriage had been stolen. P. Yes, I knew it. L. No, I tell you, you did not know anything about it. P. No, I did not know anything about it. At this moment we do not know whether the patient knows it, or not. Dr. Laurent says that the present state of our knowledge does not permit us to know whether the person hypnotized obeys his conscience or his will, which holds him under its dependence. We may add that little children on the witness stand can be made through the overbearing manner of the examiner to confess things about themselves or others that have been solely suggested at the time.

Dr. Laurent has an article in the same review for November 1st, 1889, considering the influence of suggestive action over hysterical prisoners. A hysterical person is often wholly at the mercy of his surroundings. At one time he loves to engage in prayer, at another to go on a debauch. It is evident that such a person coming out of prison will be more dangerous than ever. The doctor cites cases from his own experience, where the prisoners have made their hysterical comrade believe all sorts of absurdities about himself. He terms this a sort of suggestion (*à froid*), a hypnotism in the waking state; without doubt the suggestive action is less than in sleep, still it has its forces. He gives also an illustration of self-hypnotization in the case of a hysterical prisoner, who within a few days after his entrance into prison learns the customs, language and tastes of the place, and believes himself to be one of the greatest of criminals; he can be made to injure other prisoners. The practical conclusion of the article is, that all hysterical prisoners should be isolated, and placed under the charge of a physician, on account of the pernicious moral influence the prisoners have over them.

*Should Inebriates be Punished by Death for Crime?* By T. D. CROTHERS, M. D., Superintendent of Walnut Lodge, of Hartford, Conn.

Although this is only a leaflet of eight pages, it contains many facts and practical ideas. Criminals are found who are not deceitful, but desperately wicked. The inebriate is defective and diseased—the death penalty for inebriates is opposed to all teachings of science and experience. Ten per cent. of the estimated half million inebriates in the United